CHAPTER XXIV

THE *San Min Chi I* AND EDUCATION

"Without this book[1]" writes Lyon Shannon in *Sun Yat-sen: His Life and Its Meaning,*

> * 'Son Yat-sen's claim to the worship of the present generation in China would lack its most important documentation, It is doubtful whether, if there had never been a *San Min Chu* /» there could ever have been a Will or a Cult. The book was the chief firebrand of the Nationalist propaganda in 1926—28, and it is now the most important test in Kuo-mintang education.[1]'

Study of the *San Min Chu I* is compulsory in all schools, colleges and universities in China. The summary of the Lectures given in the last Chapter should have conveyed some idea of its absurdities, inconsistencies, and falsehoods. Yet in using the book for educational purposes, these are the very features that have been emphasized, and even exaggerated. While it is true that statements can be quoted from one part or other of the work to support or condemn Communism, or almost any other political theory, the *San Min Chu I* cannot be robbed of its xenophobic features. The intolerant attitude of Party leaders may be judged from the statement of Tai Chi-tao, President of the Examination Yuan that: ""Whoever does not believe in the *San Min Chu I* is a willing victim to the craft of the evil spirit and leads society to misfortune."